WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A keystore method comprising the steps of:

2   retrieving one or more certificates from a local database;

3   determining if said any of said one or more certificates preexists in a preselected

4 portion of a distributed database; and

5   storing nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more certificates in said

6 preselected portion of said distributed database.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 wherein said preselected portion of said distributed

2 database comprises said distributed database.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of determining if said one or

2 more certificates is invalid.

1   4.   The method of claim 3 wherein said step of storing nonpreexisting ones of said

2 one or more certificates is bypassed for invalid certificates.

1   5.   The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of requesting a new certificate

2 corresponding to an invalid certificate.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of updating said distributed

2   database in response to an update event.

1   7.   The method of claim 6 wherein said step of updating said distributed database

2   comprises the steps of:

3   requesting one or more new certificates; and

4   adding said new certificates to said distributed database.

1   8.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

2   determining if a current certificate supercedes a preexisting certificate; and

3   replacing said preexisting certificate with said current certificate if said current

4   certificate supercedes said preexisting certificate.

1   9.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

2   accessing said distributed keystore; and

3   requesting a selected certificate from said distributed keystore.

1   10.   The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of searching a local keystore

2   for said selected certificate in response to a failure of said step of requesting said selected

3   certificate.

1   11.   The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of repeating, for a second local

2   database, the steps of:

3   retrieving one or more certificates;

4   determining if said any of said one or more certificates preexists in a preselected

5   portion of a distributed database; and

6   storing nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more certificates in said

7   preselected portion of said distributed database.

1   12.   The method of claim 8 wherein said distributed database comprises a logical

2   keystore.

1   13.   A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium, the

2   program product for managing a keystore, the program product including a program of

3   instructions for performing the steps of:

4   retrieving one or more certificates from a first local database;

5   determining if said any of said one or more certificates preexists in a preselected

6   portion of a distributed database; and

7   storing nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more certificates in said

8   preselected portion of said distributed database.

1   14.   The program product of claim 13 wherein said preselected portion of said

2   distributed database comprises said distributed database.

1   15.   The program product of claim 13 wherein said program of instructions further

2   comprises programming for performing the step of determining if said one or more

3   certificates is invalid.

1   16.   The program product of claim 15 wherein said step of storing nonpreexisting

2   ones of said one or more certificates is bypassed for invalid certificates.

1   17.   The program product of claim 15 wherein said program of instructions further

2   comprises programming for performing the step of requesting a new certificate

3   corresponding to an invalid certificate.

1   18.   The program product of claim 13 wherein said program of instructions further

2   comprises programming for performing the step of updating said distributed database in

3   response to an update event.

1   19.   The program product of claim 18 wherein said step of updating said distributed

2   database comprises the steps of:

3   requesting one or more new certificates; and

4   adding said new certificates to said distributed database.

1   20.   The program product of claim 13 wherein said program of instructions further

2   comprises programming for performing the steps of:

3   determining if a current certificate supercedes a preexisting certificate; and

4   replacing said preexisting certificate with said current certificate if said current

5   certificate supercedes said preexisting certificate.

1   21.   The program product of claim 13 wherein said program of instructions further

2   comprises programming for performing the steps of:

3   accessing said distributed database; and

4   requesting a selected certificate from said distributed database.

1   22.   The program product of claim 21 wherein said program of instructions further

2   comprises programming for performing the step of searching a local keystore for said

3   selected certificate in response to a failure of said step of requesting said selected

4   certificate.

1   23.   The computer program product of claim 13 wherein said program of instructions

2   further comprises instructions for the step of repeating, for a second local database, the

3   steps of:

4   retrieving one or more certificates;

5   determining if said any of said one or more certificates preexists in a preselected

6   portion of a distributed database; and

7   storing nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more certificates in said

8   preselected portion of said distributed database.

1   24.   The computer program product of claim 20 wherein said distributed database

2   comprises a logical keystore.

1   25.   A data processing system comprising:

2   circuitry operable for retrieving one or more certificates from a first local

3   database;

4   circuitry operable for determining if said any of said one or more certificates

5   preexists in a preselected portion of a distributed database; and

6   circuitry operable for storing nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more

7   certificates in said preselected portion of said distributed database.

1   26.   The system of claim 25 wherein said preselected portion of said distributed

2   database comprises said distributed database.

1   27.   The system of claim 25 further comprising circuitry operable for determining if

2   said one or more certificates is invalid.

1   28.   The system of claim 27 wherein said circuitry operable for determining if said one

2   or more certificates is expired includes circuitry operable for bypassing, for invalid

3   certificates, said circuitry operable for storing nonpreexisting certificates.

1   29.   The system of claim 27 further comprising circuitry operable for requesting a new

2   certificate corresponding to an invalid certificate.

1   30.   The system of claim 25 further comprising circuitry operable for updating said

2   distributed database in response to an update event.

1   31.   The system of claim 30 wherein said circuitry operable for updating said

2   distributed database comprises:

3   circuitry operable for requesting one or more new certificates; and

4   circuitry operable for adding said new certificates to said distributed database.

1   32.   The system of claim 25 further comprising:

2   circuitry operable for determining if a current certificate supercedes a preexisting

3   certificate; and

4   circuitry operable for replacing said preexisting certificate with said current

5   certificate if said current certificate supercedes said preexisting certificate.

1   33.   The system of claim 25 further comprising:

2   circuitry operable for accessing said distributed database; and

3   circuitry operable for requesting a selected certificate from said distributed

4   database.

1   34.   The system of claim 33 further comprising circuitry operable for searching a local

2   keystore for said selected certificate in response to a failure of said step of requesting said

3   selected certificate.

1   35.   The system of claim 25 further comprising circuitry operable for repeating, for

2   a second local database, the steps of:

3   retrieving one or more certificates;

4   determining if said any of said one or more certificates preexists in a preselected

5   portion of a distributed database; and

6   storing nonpreexisting certificates of said one or more certificates in said

7   preselected portion of said distributed database.

1   36.   The system of claim 32 wherein said distributed database comprises a logical

2   keystore.